

**Department of Energy****Ohio Field Office  
Fernald Area Office****P. O. Box 538705  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45253-8705  
(513) 648-3155****JUN 18 1997****DOE-1090-97**

**Mr. James A. Saric, Remedial Project Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region V-SRF-5J  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590**

**Mr. Tom Schneider, Project Manager  
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
401 East 5th Street  
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2911**

**Dear Mr. Saric and Mr. Schneider:**

**CONSOLIDATED CONSENT AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY COMPLIANCE  
AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT/REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY  
STUDY/CONSENT DECREE MONTHLY REPORT - MAY 1, 1997 THROUGH MAY 31, 1997**

This letter transmits the amended Consent Agreement Monthly Report for the period May 1, 1997, through May 31, 1997. The monthly report is formatted to reflect the proposal presented in the letter, DOE-0395-96, J. Reising to J. A. Saric and T. Schneider, "Phase VII Removal Actions and Reporting Requirements under the FEMP Legal Agreements," dated January 16, 1996, and agreed to by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA).

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact me at (513) 648-3139.

Sincerely,

**Johnny W. Reising  
Fernald Remedial Action  
Project Manager**

**Enclosure: As Stated**

cc w/enc:

N. Hallein, EM-42, CLOV  
R. Beaumier, TPSS/DERR, OEPA-Columbus  
G. Jablonowski, USEPA-V, 5HRE-8J  
R. Geiger, PRC  
D. Carr, FDF/9  
T. Hagen, FDF/65-2  
AR Coordinator/78

cc w/o enc:

F. Bell, ATSDR  
D. S. Ward, GeoTrans  
J. Harmon, FDF/90  
B. Irvine, FDF/65-2  
C. Little, FDF/2  
T. Walsh, FDF/65-2  
EDC, FDF/52-7

**CONSOLIDATED CONSENT AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY COMPLIANCE  
AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT/REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY  
STUDY/CONSENT DECREE MONTHLY REPORT MAY 1 - 31, 1997**

**Introduction**

This report describes actions at the Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP) from May 1 through 31, 1997. The monthly report has been revised to reflect the proposal presented in the letter, DOE-0395-96, J. Reising to J.A. Saric and T. Schneider, "Phase VII Removal Actions and Reporting Requirements under the FEMP Legal Agreements", dated January 16, 1996, and agreed to by USEPA and OEPA.

CONSOLIDATED CONSENT AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY COMPLIANCE  
AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT/REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY  
STUDY/CONSENT DECREE MONTHLY REPORT MAY 1 - 31, 1997

OPERABLE UNIT 1

May 1997

- Enforceable Milestones Completed
  - None
- Major Work Initiated/Completed
  - Completed evaluation of Alternative Remedial Action Subcontracting Approach (ARASA) initial proposals
  - Continued north railyard construction
  - Completed modifications to Waste Pits Remedial Action Project (WPRAP) north access road
  - Continued development of the Transportation Plan
  - Submitted the procurement package, including specifications, for 135 railcars to DOE for approval
  - Continued off-site trestle construction activities

June 1997 (Anticipated)

- Enforceable Milestones
  - None
- Major Work to be Initiated/Completed
  - Request ARASA Best and Final Offers (BAFOs) and reevaluate proposals
  - Continue north railyard construction
  - Continue modifications to WPRAP north access road
  - Continue development of the Transportation Plan, a Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP) deliverable
  - Issue Invitation for Bid for the procurement of 135 railcars
  - Continue off-site trestle construction activities

OPERABLE UNIT 2

May 1997

- Enforceable Milestones Completed
  - On-Site Disposal Facility (OSDF)
    - None
  - Soil Characterization & Excavation Project (SCEP)
    - None
- Major Work Initiated/Completed
  - OSDF
    - Initiated installation of piping for the Leachate Conveyance System near the Vitrification Pilot Plant access road

**CONSOLIDATED CONSENT AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY COMPLIANCE  
AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT/REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY  
STUDY/CONSENT DECREE MONTHLY REPORT MAY 1 - 31, 1997**

- Completed relocation of the fiber optic cables and telephone lines along Phase I of the Relocated North Access Road
- Attended Soil & Water Projects Workshop on May 27, 1997, to provide updates to the stakeholders on the OSDF construction schedule, road closures, and realignment plans
- SCEP
  - Continued work on the Integrated Remedial Design Package (IRDP) for the Southern Waste Units; remedial strategies under development in the Sitewide Excavation Plan and the Area 1, Phase I Certification Report are being incorporated in this IRDP
  - Attended a Soil & Water Projects Workshop on May 27, 1997, to provide an update to the stakeholders on soil certification and related issues

**June 1997 (Anticipated)**

- Enforceable Milestones
  - OSDF
    - None
  - SCEP
    - None
- Major Work to be Initiated/Completed
  - OSDF
    - Petro Environmental Technologies, Inc. will begin construction of the sediment basin
  - SCEP
    - Continue work on IRDP as identified in May 1997 activities above

**OPERABLE UNIT 3**

**May 1997**

- Enforceable Milestones Completed
  - Submitted comment responses and revisions to the Integrated Remedial Design/Remedial Action Work Plan to the Agencies on May 12, 1997
- Major Work Initiated/Completed
  - Safe Shutdown
    - Continued holdup material removal in Plant 2/3
    - Continued planning for safe shutdown activities in Plants 6 and 8
  - D&D
    - Foster Wheeler Environmental began mobilization in Boiler Plant/Water Plant
    - Issued Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Thorium/Plant 9 D&D Project to prospective bidders in early May and held a pre-bid meeting on May 12, 1997

**June 1997 (Anticipated)**

- Enforceable Milestones
  - None

**CONSOLIDATED CONSENT AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY COMPLIANCE  
AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT/REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY  
STUDY/CONSENT DECREE MONTHLY REPORT MAY 1 - 31, 1997**

- Major Work to be Initiated/Completed
  - Safe Shutdown
    - Begin holdup material removal from the Sewage Treatment Plant Incinerator
    - Continue line draining and holdup material removal in Plant 2/3
    - Mobilize and begin initial activities in Plant 8
  - D&D
    - Perform asbestos abatement activities in Boiler Plant/Water Plant
    - Issue Amendment #1 to Thorium/Plant 9 RFP on June 2, 1997
    - Begin evaluation of responses to the RFP for Thorium/Plant 9; proposals due on June 17, 1997
    - Respond to USEPA comments on Thorium/Plant 9 Implementation Plan

**OPERABLE UNIT 4**

May 1997

- Enforceable Milestones Completed
  - None
- Major Work Initiated/Completed
  - Met with the Waste Management Committee of the Fernald Citizens Task Force (FCTF) on May 7, 1997, to discuss issues associated with the Silos Project path forward
  - FEMP representatives also attended the meeting of the Nevada Test Site Citizens Advisory Board (NTS CAB) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Subcommittee, as well as the regular monthly meeting of the full CAB, on May 7, 1997, in Nevada
  - Attended the full FCTF meeting on May 10, 1997, to provide support and answer questions as the Task Force continues to review the Silos Project path forward
  - Conducted a combined Public Workshop/FCTF Waste Management Committee Meeting on May 14, 1997, to discuss and solicit stakeholder input on the process for selecting a technology for stabilization/solidification of Silo 3 residues
  - The Market Survey for the potential Silos 1 and 2 vitrification subcontract is approximately 66% complete; letters were sent to prospective bidders on April 28, 1997, and various meetings were held with five prospective participants during the period of May 12 - 23, 1997
  - The Agreement in Principle to Resolve Dispute Concerning Extension of Time to Meet Operable Unit 4 Milestones was signed by USEPA and DOE on May 15, 1997

June 1997 (Anticipated)

- Enforceable Milestones
  - None
- Major Work to be Initiated/Completed
  - Conduct a Silo 3 Stabilization Workshop in Nevada for NTS stakeholders on June 3, 1997; this workshop is part of an effort to provide the same information for Nevada stakeholders that is being presented to our local stakeholders concerning evaluation of the best technology for stabilizing/solidifying Silo 3 residues

**CONSOLIDATED CONSENT AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY COMPLIANCE  
AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT/REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY  
STUDY/CONSENT DECREE MONTHLY REPORT MAY 1 - 31, 1997**

- Attend regular monthly meeting of the NTS CAB, as well as the CAB's Transportation Protocol Working Group meeting, both of which will occur on June 4, 1997
- Meet with the Waste Management Committee of the FCTF on June 9, 1997, to discuss three Silos 1 and 2 Project Path Forward schedule options, which were recently developed in response to the OU4 AIP between USEPA and DOE; stakeholder input will be used in the further development of one draft schedule outlining development and submission of key OU4 milestone documents and a proposal for resolving stipulated fines and penalties
- Submit a Draft Silos 1 and 2 Project Path Forward Schedule, as described above, to USEPA by June 16, 1997
- Conduct a combination Public Workshop/FCTF Waste Management Committee Meeting on June 16, 1997, to provide support and answer questions as the stakeholders continue to evaluate the best technology for stabilization/solidification of Silo 3 residues; this meeting will focus on evaluating four treatment technologies carried forward from the Silo 3 Workshop in May, which are cement stabilization/solidification, polymer (micro) encapsulation, sulfur/polymer encapsulation, and vitrification

**OPERABLE UNIT 5**

May 1997

- Enforceable Milestones Completed
  - Aquifer Restoration Project (ARP)/Advanced Waste Water Treatment (AWWT)
    - Submitted Final Restoration Area Verification Sampling Program Project-Specific Plan to the Agencies on May 21, 1997
    - Submitted response to comments documents to the Agencies on May 23, 1997, for the following items:
      - Draft Final Integrated Environmental Monitoring Plan (IEMP)
      - Draft Final OSDF Groundwater/Leak Detection and Leachate Monitoring Plan
  - SCEP
    - None
- Major Work Initiated/Completed
  - ARP/AWWT
    - Attended meeting of the Monitoring/Recycling Committee of the FCTF on May 21, 1997, to provide a status report on the IEMP
    - Distributed a Remedial Design Fact Sheet describing necessary changes to Final Remediation Limits (FRLs) for fluoride and lead to attendees at the Soil & Water Projects Workshop on May 27, 1997
    - Initiated AWWT Regeneration System Alteration Project construction on May 27, 1997
    - Continued construction of storm sewers in northern portion of the west parking lot in support of the Parking Lot Stormwater Runoff Diversion Project
    - Continued design work on sludge removal from the Storm Water Retention Basin and the Bionitrification Surge Lagoon, and miscellaneous upgrades to the AWWT

**CONSOLIDATED CONSENT AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY COMPLIANCE  
AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT/REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY  
STUDY/CONSENT DECREE MONTHLY REPORT MAY 1 - 31, 1997**

- SCEP
  - Attended a Soil & Water Projects Workshop on May 27, 1997, to provide an update to the stakeholders on soil certification and related issues
  - Submitted Draft Area 1, Phase I Certification Report to DOE for review and comment on May 29, 1997; 79 of the 81 Certification Units (CUs) within A1, PI have passed certification (i.e., average concentrations are less than FRLs)
  - Implemented corrective actions for the two failed CUs in A1, PI; sent more samples for analysis to verify adequacy of the corrective actions
  - Continued development and redesign of the Sitewide Excavation Plan
  - Continued assessment of analytical data associated with ongoing Comparability Study

**June 1997 (Anticipated)**

- Enforceable Milestones
  - ARP/AWWT
    - None
  - SCEP
    - None
- Major Work to be Initiated/Completed
  - ARP/AWWT
    - Continue construction for ongoing projects
    - Prepare Final IEMP and Final OSDF Groundwater/Leak Detection and Leachate Monitoring Plan, contingent upon Agency approval of comment responses
    - Complete Parking Lot Stormwater Diversion Project by June 24, 1997; note that project may be completed by June 7, 1997, contingent upon favorable weather conditions
    - Prepare to initiate implementation of the IEMP sampling programs in July 1997
  - SCEP
    - Submit first Comparability Study Report (Field Application of High Purity Germanium Detectors [HPGe]) to DOE
    - Submit Draft Sitewide Excavation Plan to DOE for review and comment
    - Verify adequacy of corrective actions implemented in A1, PI; after certification of the final two CUs, complete final grading and seeding
    - Submit Certification Report for A1, PI to the Agencies by July 1, 1997, consistent with the milestone extension granted by USEPA in their letter dated March 7, 1997

**WASTE MANAGEMENT**

**May 1997**

- Enforceable Milestones Completed
  - None



CONSOLIDATED CONSENT AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY COMPLIANCE  
AGREEMENT/FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT/REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY  
STUDY/CONSENT DECREE MONTHLY REPORT MAY 1 - 31, 1997

- Major Work Initiated/Completed
  - Low Level Waste
    - Shipped 1,616.00 m<sup>3</sup> low level waste to Nevada Test Site (NTS)
  - Mixed Waste Treatment Projects
    - Chemical Treatment Projects
      - Treated 1.00 m<sup>3</sup> mixed waste in the Neutralization/Precipitation/Deactivation/Stabilization (NPDS) Project

June 1997 (Anticipated)

- Enforceable Milestones
  - None
- Major Work to be Initiated/Completed
  - Mixed Waste Treatment Projects
    - TSCA Incinerator
      - Lockheed Martin will initiate sampling of Batch 7; newly generated waste streams will be evaluated for bulking into Batch 8
    - Chemical Treatment Projects
      - Ship non-hazardous silver recovery cartridges to Safety Kleen facility in Lexington, South Carolina; rescheduled from May 1997
      - RCI Solvent Extraction Project --- Auditable Safety Record and Unreviewed Safety Questions being reviewed at Ohio Field Office; target return date is June 13, 1997

**THORIUM OVERPACKING PROJECT UPDATE (TOP)**

All figures cumulative for the project as of June 1, 1997

- Overpacked 5,577 drums
- Filled 967 Thorium Overpack Containers (TOCs)
- Shipped 961 TOCs

***Overpacking of the thorium containers associated with this project was completed on May 21, 1997, 10 months ahead of schedule, significantly under budget, and at a worker exposure rate less than half of that originally estimated. TOCs shipped is 99.38% complete, leaving 6 TOCs to be shipped to the Nevada Test Site.***